The syntactic coercion between "N₁Adv *shi* N₂" and "S *bi* N₁ *hai* N₂" constructions

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Abstract: Though many researchers have studied "N₁Adv *shi* N₂" and "S *bi* N₁ *hai* N₂" constructions, none of them have done some research on the correlation between them. In view of it, this thesis analyzes the syntactic coercion of the construction "N₁Adv *shi* N₂" on the construction "S *bi* N₁ *hai* N₂" from the perspective of the Cognitive Construction Grammar. The findings are: the latter inherits from the former the characteristics of nouns as adjectives, generic reference of nouns, and no negation, etc., but blocks the characteristic of personal names with specific reference; the latter partially inherits from the former some characteristics of nouns, such as the nouns referring to people, but blocks the information of geographical and personal names. In addition, the metonymic thinking model link proposed in this thesis has complemented the four types of links between constructions by Goldberg.

Keywords: Cognitive Construction Grammar; "S *bi* N₁ *hai* N₂"; "N₁Adv *shi* N₂"; coercion of construction; inheritance of construction; syntax

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1. Introduction

The construction "N₁Adv *shi* N₂" is generally called a tautology, in which N₁ and N₂ are same in form, linked by the affirmative verb "shi" (是). N₁ expresses referential meaning, for instance, "laohu₁" (老 虎 ₁) in (1); and N₂ expresses connotative meaning which belongs to the adjective category, for instance, "laohu₂" (老虎 ₂) in (1) , meaning "man-eating". "Adv" in the construction refers to intensifying adverbs, for instance, the adverb "zhongjiu" (终究) in (1). But if the adverbs in the construction express concession instead of intensification, and N₂ expresses referential instead of connotative meanings, for instance, the adverb "dao" (倒) and "nanren₂" (男 人 ₂) in (2), the construction is not the one studied in this thesis. "S *bi* N₁ *hai* N₂" is a comparative construction, in which S is a comparative subject, N₁ is a comparative object, N₁ and N₂ are same in form; N₂ expresses the comparative result, for instance, "nvren₂" (女 人 ₂) in (3) functions as an adjective

with connotative meaning, such as "tender" and "timid".

(1) 老虎₁ 终究是老虎₂，它总是要吃人的 . (Lv Shuxiang 2012)
Laohu₁ zhongjiu shi laohu₂, ta zongshi yao chiren de. (Lv Shuxiang 2012)
'A tiger is a tiger after all. It will always eat people.' (translated by author[1])

(2) 男人₁ 倒是男人₂，只不过不是真男人 . (BCC[2])
Nanren₁ daoshi nanren₂, zhi bu guo bu shi zhen nanren.
'The man is a man indeed, but he is not a real men.'

(3) 男人要是女人起来，比女人₁ 还女人₂.
Nanren yao shi nvren qi lai, bi nvren₁ hai nvren₂.
'When a man behaves like a woman, he is more like a woman.'

The studies of the construction "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" on syntax are mainly about the adverbs, nouns and the function of N_2 (Gao Mingle, 2002; Wen Xu, 2003; Liu Zhengguang, 2005; Yin Hehui, 2006; Wang Yin, 2011a; Zhang Ailing, 2016; Fu Zhenglin and Wen Xu, 2017). The studies of "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" on syntax mainly concern the function of N_2, nouns, whether *hai* can be omitted, whether there is negation, and whether S and N_1 can be exchangeable, etc (Zong Shouyun, 1995; Yin Zhiping, 1995; Tang Yili, 2001; Wang Xia, 2001; Zhang Aiming, et al. 2002; Zhou Jinguo, 2003; Ma Wezhong, 2014). Yet in these researches, there are not any studies of the correlation between the two constructions. In view of it, this study investigated the correlation between them by analyzing the coercion of "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" on "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" from the perspective of the Cognitive Construction Grammar.

2. Coercion between "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" and "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2"

Goldberg (1995: 75–81) claimed that there are four major types of inheritance links between constructions, i.e., polysemy links, metaphorical extension links, subpart links, and instance links; "construction A motivates construction B if B *inherits* from A" (ibid: 72). Wang Yin (2011a: 377) proposed that the relation between coercion and inheritance is a unity of opposites, i.e., if construction A coerces construction B, then construction B inherits some information from construction A. In terms of their views, except for the four inheritance links, there exists another type of link, i.e., N_1 and N_2 in constructions A and B share the same WHOLE-PART metonymic thinking model, specifically, N_2 is a part of N_1. In other words, the same metonymic thinking model can also lead to the coercion of construction A on construction B or the inheritance of construction B from construction A. N_1 and N_2 in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" and "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" constructions have the same syntactic features, i.e., N_1 expresses the referential meaning, N_2 expresses the connotative meaning. The coercion between them can be illustrated by **Figure 1**.

In Figure 1, there is a line linking N_1 and N_2 in the construction "N_1Adv *shi* N_2", and the former points at the latter, implying that they have a WHOLE-PART metonymic relation, and N_1 coerces N_2 semantically. In the construction "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" there is a line linking N_1 and N_2, too, and the former also points at the latter, implying that they have a metonymic relation, and N_1 coerces N_2 semantically, too. Therefore, it indicates that "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" is coerced by "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" through

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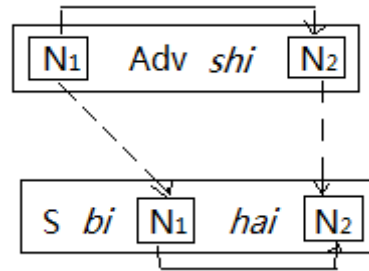1. All the examples in Chinese are translated by author.

2. http://bcc.blcu.edu.cn

Figure 1. Coercion of "N₁Adv *shi* N₂" on "S *bi* N₁ *hai* N₂".

the WHOLE-PART metonymic thinking model. The coercion of the two constructions are linked by two dotted lines, one of which links N₁s, the other of which links N₂s. The dotted lines indicate that "S *bi* N₁ *hai* N₂" inherits some information from "N₁Adv *shi* N₂" partially.

3. Analysis of the coercion of "N₁Adv *shi* N₂" on "S *bi* N₁ *hai* N₂"

3.1. Nouns as adjectives: N₁ coerces N₂

The modal adverbs used in "N₁Adv *shi* N₂" generally are "jiu"(就), "zong"(总), "bijing"(毕竟), "jiujing"(究竟), "zonggui"(总归), "daodi"(到底), "zhongjiu"(终究) and "zhonggui"(终归). "jiu"(就) is a scope adverb, and "zong"(总) is a temporal adverb (Lv Shuxiang 1980: 18). But with the passage of time, the scope adverb "jiu"(就) gradually changes partially to be a modal adverb (Zhang Xiusong 2008: 9). On the effects of the modal adverbs in the construction "N₁Adv *shi* N₂", Lv Shuxiang (1980: 78) pointed out that "bijing"(毕竟), "jiujing"(究竟), "zonggui"(总归) and "daodi"(到底) express the full confirmation of the important or right facts, implying the negation of unimportant and wrong results, and (Lv Shuxiang, 1980: 686, 314, 698, 153) emphasize the features of the referent. The following sentences (4)-(7) are taken from Lv (1980):

(4) 孩子₁ 究竟是孩子₂, 哭了一会儿玩去了 .

Haizi₁ zhongjiu shi haizi₂, ku le yihuier wan qu le.

'Children are children after all. They go out playing after having cried for a while.'

(5) 事实₁ 总归是事实₂, 谁也不能否认 .

Shishi₁ zonggui shi shishi₂, shui ye bu neng fouren.

'Facts are facts after all. They can't be denied.'

(6) 南方₁ 到底是南方₂, 四月就插秧了 .

Nanfang₁ daodi shi nanfang₂, si yue jiu chayang le.

'The south is the south after all. The seedlings are transplanted in April there.'

(7) 老虎₁ 终究是老虎₂, 它总是要吃人的 .

Laohu₁ zhongjiu shi laohu₂, ta zongshi yao chiren de.

'A tiger is a tiger after all. It will always eat people.'

In terms of Lv, "haizi$_2$" (孩子 $_2$), "shishi$_2$" (事实 $_2$), "nanfang$_2$" (南方 $_2$) and "laohu$_2$" (老虎 $_2$) in (4)-(7) express the connotations of the referents. Specifically, when the modal verb "jiujing"(究竟) is used in (4), the connotations of "haizi$_2$" (孩子 $_2$) would be highlighted, such as "naughty", "playful" and "dirty", etc. According to the context of (4), the meaning of "haizi$_2$" (孩子 $_2$) is "playful", and its function is an adjective. When "zonggui"(总归) , "daodi"(到底), and "zhongjiu"(终究) are used in (5)(6)(7) respectively, the connotations of "shishi$_2$" (事实 $_2$), "nanfang$_2$" (南方 $_2$) and "laohu$_2$" (老虎 $_2$) would be highlighted respectively and function as adjectives, too.

There are some other researchers holding the same view, such as Chen Xinren (2002) and Zhang Ailing (2011). Chen Xinren (2002) claimed that the implied meanings of N$_2$ in "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$" are dependent on the modal adverbs. The implied meaning in fact refers to the noun's connotation. For instance, the connotations of "nianqingren" (年 轻 人) include "careless", "inexperienced", "bold" and "energetic", etc. Zhang Ailing (2011) argued that N$_2$ in "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$" changes from the referential to connotative meaning. Besides, Gao Minle (2002) and Wen Xu (2003) held that the modal adverbs enhance the judgement meaning of the construction. Pan Guoying (2006: 79) claimed that the adverbs in "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$" are focal operators, deciding the focal point of N$_2$.

According to the views above, the modal adverbs play a very important role in "N$_1$Adv shi N$_2$". If the modal adverbs in sentences (4)-(7) are omitted, it's found that there are no emphases on the affirmative judgement of N$_1$, and these sentences are a bit difficult to understand. Zhang Xiusong (2008: 6), in analyzing "N$_1$Adv N$_2$", pointed out that if the adverb "daodi" (到底) is omitted, the sentence cannot be self-explanatory. The function of the intensifying adverbs will be clarified further by the following sentences (8)-(10).

(8) 电视 $_1$ 是电视 $_2$，但是调不出一个台 . (Zhang Ailing 2011)

    Dianshi$_1$ shi dianshi$_2$, dan shi tiao bu chu yi ge tai.

    'The television is a television, but it cannot set a channel.'

(9) 大学生 $_1$ 是大学生 $_2$，然而连篇像样的文章都写不出来 . (ibid)

    Da xuesheng$_1$ shi da xuesheng$_2$, ran er lian pian xiang yang de wenzhang dou xie bu chu lai.

    'The college students are college students, but they cannot even write a decent article.'

(10) 他们家亲戚 $_1$ 是亲戚 $_2$，就是不太亲 . (ibid)

    Tamen jia qinqi$_1$ shi qinqi$_2$, jiu shi bu tai qin.

    'In their family the relatives are relatives, but they are distant to each other.'

As there are no intensifying adverbs in the construction, "dianshi$_2$" (电视 $_2$) in (8), "daxuesheng$_2$" (大 学 生 $_2$) in (9), and "qinqi$_2$" (亲 戚 $_2$) in (10) express the referential meanings instead of connotations respectively. Therefore, from the perspective of the Cognitive Construction Grammar, "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$" can indeed coerce N$_2$ to highlight its connotations and function as an adjective. Zhang Ailing (2016) also noticed that the modal adverbs in "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$" can make the prototypical connotative meaning of the noun salient.

According to the analysis above, N$_2$ can be coerced by "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$" into an adjective.

Therefore, N_1, as a noun, expresses the referential meaning; N_2, as an adjective, expresses the connotations of N_1. There is a WHOLE-PART metonymic thinking model between N_1 and N_2 (Liu Zhengguang, 2005: 118). N_1 and N_2 in "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" have the same metonymic thinking model as those in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2". Thus the syntactic functions of N_1 and N_2 in the two constructions are the same. As "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" appears much earlier than "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2", the latter is coerced by the former and has inherited the WHOLE-PART metonymic thinking model between N_1 and N_2 from the former. Therefore, a conclusion can be reached that N_2 in "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" inherits the function of the adjective from N_2 in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2".

3.2. Generic reference of noun

Jackendoff (1983: 77–88) claimed that generic concept is a representation of a category for a categorization of things, pertaining to a mental conceptual structure, which does not refer to one specific thing. Generic reference of nouns refer to a type of people or things, such as proper nouns, pronouns and bare nouns. The meanings of the generic reference of nouns focus on their connotation instead of reference (Liu Danqing, 2002: 421), or a generation of their attributes (Niu Baoyi, 2012). The nouns in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" are generic reference of nouns (Liu Zhengguang, 2005:116; Yin Guohui, 2006: 70; Fu Zhenglin & Wen Xu, 2017: 48), but Pan Guoying (2006: 77) and Zhang Xiusong (2008: 8) held that N_1 in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" are specific reference of nouns. The former view can be explicated by whether there is a causal relationship in meaning between N_1 and the clause (*p*):

[1] If there is a causal relationship in meaning between N_1 and the clause *p*, N_1 is a generic reference of noun;

[2] If there is no causal relationship in meaning between N_1 and the clause *p*, N_1 is a specific reference of noun.

[1] can be explicated by sentences (4) (5) (6) (7). In these four sentences, there is a causal relationship in meaning between "$haizi_1$" (孩子 $_1$), "$shishi_1$" (事实 $_1$), "$nanfang_1$" (南方 $_1$), "$laohu_1$" (老虎 $_1$) and their clauses p respectively, i.e., "ku le yihuier wan qu le" (哭了一会儿玩去了 $_p$), "buneng fouren" (不能否认 $_p$), "siyue jiu chayang le"(四月就插秧了 $_p$), "zongshi yao chiren de" (总是要吃人的 $_p$), meaning that "$haizi_1$" (孩子 $_1$) are playful; "$shishi_1$" (事实 $_1$) cannot be denied; the seedlings are transplanted in April in "$nanfang_1$" (南方 $_1$); and "$laohu_1$" (老虎 $_1$) always eat people. The connotation of these nouns display their prototypical and universal attributes of the type of people, things, places, or animals in the context, which are different frame structures of knowledge obtained from our daily experience. Therefore, these nouns (N_1) in (4) (5) (6) (7) with intensifying adverbs are generic reference of nouns.

[2] can be explicated by sentences (8) (9) (10). In these three sentences, there is no causal relationship in meaning between "$dianshi_1$" (电视 $_1$), "$daxuesheng_1$" (大学生 $_1$), "$qinqi_1$" (亲戚 $_1$) and their clauses p respectively, i.e., "tiao bu chu yi ge tai$_p$" (调不出一个台 $_p$), "lian pian xiangyangde wenzhang dou xie bu chu lai$_p$" (连篇像样的文章都写不出来 $_p$), "bu tai qin$_p$" (不太亲 $_p$), in that the connotation of these nouns (N_1) in the context do not display their prototypical and universal attributes, i.e., "$dianshi_1$" (电视 $_1$) cannot set a channel; "$daxuesheng_1$" (大学生 $_1$) cannot write a decent article; "$qinqi_1$" (亲戚 $_1$) are distant to each other. These attributes are not embraced by the conventional frame structure of knowledge stored in people' mind, such as "$dianshi_1$" (电视 $_1$) can set a channel; "$daxuesheng_1$" (大学生 $_1$) can write a decent article; "$qinqi_1$" (亲戚 $_1$) are kind

or close to each other. Thus, the nouns (N_1) in (8) (9) (10) with no intensifying adverbs are specific reference of nouns.

According to the analysis above, N_1 in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" are generic reference of nouns. With the view of claiming N_1 in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" are specific reference of nouns by Pan Guoying (2006) and Zhang Xiusong (2008), the personal names are only specific reference of nouns. For example,

(11) 桃子₁终究是桃子₂，还是离不了模特儿这个老本行.

    Tao Zi₁ zhongjiu shi Tao Zi₂, hai shi li bu le moteer zhe ge lao benhang.

    'Tao Zi₁ is Tao Zi₂ after all. She can't get away from her old job as a model.'

In (11), the personal name "taozi₁" (桃子₁) is a specific reference of noun.

N_1, as generic reference of nouns in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2", can also be approved by the corpus collected in this study. Among 965 items of the corpus, there are only 3 personal names, taking up 0.76%. In other words, 99.34% of nouns are generic reference of nouns. Besides, there are no modifiers in front of all the nouns in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" (Liu Zhengguang, 2005), meaning that most of the nouns are bare nouns. In terms of the study by Liu Baoyi (2012: 79), the bare nouns are generic reference of nouns.

Most of the nouns (N_1) in "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" are generic reference of nouns because they have the prototypical characteristic of the generic reference of nouns, and almost all of them are bare nouns. For example,

(12) 对方贫贱不能移，威武不能屈，比烈士₁还烈士₂，让楚玉见识了一把什么叫忠贞不二.

    Duifang pinjian bu neng yi, weifu bu neng qu, bi lieshi₁ hai lieshi₂, rang Chu Yu jianshi le yi ba shenmo jiao zhongzhen bu er.

    'The other side cannot be moved from poverty or inferiority, nor can he bend under power or force. This shows that he is more like a martyr, letting Chu Yu see what a real royalty is.'

(13) 这课听起来实在是索然无味，比鸡肋₁还鸡肋₂.

    Zhe ke ting qi lai shi zai shi suoranwuwei, bi jile₁ hai jile₂.

    'The lecture is really dull, and is less valuable than a chicken rib.'

(14) 咱们工人就这点谁也比不过，吃苦耐劳，比牛₁还牛₂！

    Zan men gongren jiu zhe dian shui ye bi bu guo, chi ku lai lao, bi niu₁ hai niu₂.

    'No one can work hard as us workers. We can work even harder than cows.'

In sentences (12) (13) (14), "lieshi" (烈士), "jile" (鸡肋) and "niu" (牛) are bare nouns, expressing their prototypical meanings respectively. Therefore, the nouns referring to people, things and animals in "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" are nouns used by the people most frequently, which have the same characteristic of generic reference of nouns as those in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2".

The personal names used in "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" are generic reference of nouns, which are different

from those in "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$". For example,

(15) 为了阿芳，这秘密无论如何不能泄露．他怕失去钱以后，会不会失去她？尽管他做好失去的准备，但他真心地爱，比罗密欧$_1$还罗密欧$_2$。（Li Guowen Memories of an Insecure Building）

Wei le A Fang, zhe mimi wu lun ru he bu neng xielou. Ta pa shiqu qian yi hou, hui bu hui shiqu ta? Jin guan ta zuo hao shiqu de zhunbei, dan ta zhen xin de ai, bi luomiou$_1$ hai luomilou$_2$.

'The secret can't be open to others for the sake of A Fang's love. He is afraid that he would lose her if he lost his money. Though he is prepared to lose her, he loves her really. His love for her is deeper than Romeo's love for Juliet.'

"luomiou$_1$" (罗密欧 $_1$) in (15) is a generic reference of noun which means "people loving each other".

In conclusion, when "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$" coerces "S *bi* N$_1$ *hai* N$_2$", the latter inherits from the former the information of the nouns referring to people and things, abstract nouns and animal names as generic reference of nouns, but blocks the information of the personal names as specific reference of nouns.

3.3. No negation

There is no negation in "N$_1$Adv shi N$_2$" (Wang Yin, 2011b: 380). If the negative character "bu" (不 "not") is inserted into the construction, N$_1$ does not conform to p in meaning. For example,

(16) a. 诗人 $_1$ 到底是诗人 $_2$，妻子姓蓝，连家具也全用蓝色来装扮 $_p$. (Taken from Zhang Ailing 2011)

Shiren$_1$ daodi shi shiren$_2$, qizi xing lan, lian jiaju ye yong lanse lai zhuangban$_p$.

'Poets are poets after all. As his wife's family name is Lan, all the furniture at home are decorated in blue.'

b. * 诗人 $_1$ 到底不是诗人 $_2$，妻子姓蓝，连家具也全用蓝色来装扮 $_p$.

Shiren$_1$ daodi bu shi shiren$_2$, qizi xing lan, lian jiaju ye yong lanse lai zhuangban$_p$.

'Poets are not poets after all. As his wife's family name is Lan, all the furniture at home are decorated in blue.'

(17) a. 专家 $_1$ 总是专家 $_2$， 这样复杂的问题， 都讲得深入浅出 $_p$. (October, taken from Pan Guoying 2006)

Zhuanjia$_1$ zong shi zhuanjia$_2$, zhe yang fu za de wenti, dou jiang de shen ru qian chu$_p$.

'Experts are experts. They can explain the complex issue in simple language.'

b. * 专家 $_1$ 总不是专家 $_2$，这样复杂的问题， 都讲得深入浅出 $_p$.

Zhuanjia$_1$ zong bu shi zhuanjia$_2$, zhe yang fu za de wenti, dou jiang de shen ru qian chu$_p$.

'Experts are not experts. They can explain the complex issue in simple language.'

(16b) and (17b) show that if the negative character "bu" (不) is inserted in the construction, there is no causal relationship in meaning between N$_1$ and *p*. For instance, in (16a), as his wife's family name is Lan (means "blue"), he, a poet, decorates the furniture at home in blue, meaning that only a poet would be so romantic to do so. But in (16b), when the negative character "bu" is inserted in the construction, the poets' romantic quality is denied. Since the poets' romantic quality is denied, he would not be so romantic to decorate the furniture in blue for his wife. Thus (16b) is not self-explanatory.

The construction "S *bi* N$_1$ *hai* N$_2$" cannot be inserted by the negative character "bu" (不) either, which can be explicated by sentences (12) (13) (14) (15). The reason for the unacceptability of the negation of "S *bi* N$_1$ *hai* N$_2$" is due to the correlation between the referent N$_1$ and its connotation N$_2$; there is a contiguity relationship of "WHOLE-PART" between N$_1$ and N$_2$, and they cannot be separated from one another in people's mind. Therefore, the constructions with nouns concerning the referent and its connotations generally do not have negation. To conclude, "S *bi* N$_1$ *hai* N$_2$" inherits the no-negation characteristic from "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$".

3.4. On nouns

The corpus of "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$" are collected from BCC[3]. As "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$" mainly concerns eight intensifying adverbs, such as "jiu" (就), "zong" (总), "bijing" (毕竟), "jiujing" (究竟), "zonggui" (总归), "daodi" (到底), "zhongjiu" (终究) and "zhonggui" (终归), a survey of the construction with these eight adverbs is conducted. 1000 items for each adverb are loaded down randomly, and there are 8000 items as a whole. Some unqualified constructions are canceled by hand, such as the repeated sentences, sentences making no sense, sentences without nouns (e.g., "bu liaojie daodi shi bu liaojie" 不了解到底是不了解), and sentences with "jiu" (就) expressing a range, and 965 items are obtained. The corpus of "S *bi* N$_1$ *hai* N$_2$" are taken from the published thesis, the modern Chinese corpus of CCL[4], BCC, Corpus on Line[5], TV and our daily life. Though the corpus of the two constructions are not balanced in the range of collection, they also bear the similarities between them on the types of nouns.

There are five types of nouns used in "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$", concerning nouns referring to people, abstract nouns, nouns referring to things, animal names, and personal names. Except for the five types of nouns, there is another type of nouns used in "S *bi* N$_1$ *hai* N$_2$", i.e., geographical names. The nouns used in the two constructions are listed in **Table 1**.

As shown in Table 1, the types of nouns used in "N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$" and "S *bi* N$_1$ *hai* N$_2$" rank from higher to lower in number are as follows.

N (people) > Abstract N > N (thing) > AN > PN   ("N$_1$Adv *shi* N$_2$")

N (people) > N (thing) > Abstract N > AN > PN > GN   ("S *bi* N$_1$ *hai* N$_2$")

The same characteristic of the two constructions is that the nouns referring to people rank first

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3. BCC refers to The Chinese Corpus of Beijing Language and Culture University (http://bcc.blcu.edu.cn/).

4. CCL refers to Center for Chinese Linguistics PKU (http://ccl.pku.edu.cn:8080/ccl_corpus/index.jsp?dir=xiandai).

5. The website of Corpus online is http://www.cncorpus.org/.

Table 1. Types of nouns used in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" and "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2". Note: "N" = "noun"; "AN" = "animal name"; "NP" = "personal name"; "GN" = "geographical name".

Type	N_1Adv *shi* N_2		S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2		Shared N
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
N (people)	173	43.91%	297	41.77%	62
Abstract N	109	27.66%	76	10.69%	13
N (thing)	87	22.08%	206	28.97%	26
AN	22	5.58%	57	8.02%	9
PN	3	0.76%	57	8.02%	0
GN	0	0%	18	2.53%	0
Total	394	100%	711	100%	110

in number, and 61 nouns are shared by them, such as "ouxiang" (偶像 "idol"), "xiaohai" (小孩 "child, children"), "xiaohaizi" (小孩子 "child, children"), "pengyou" (朋友 "friend"), etc. The reason for the result is that they have the same cognitive metonymic thinking model between N_1 and N_2. The biggest difference between them is that "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" has no geographical names. Besides, many more personal names are used in "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" than "N_1Adv *shi* N_2". The statistics in Table 1 indicate that though the two constructions have the same cognitive metonymic thinking model between N_1 and N_2, they are different syntactically and semantically, which would lead to the similarities and differences in types and number of nouns.

"N_1Adv *shi* N_2" is a construction with no negation. The nouns referring to people and things, and animal names tend to be used in the construction because these types of nouns are easier to be coerced into generic reference of nouns. And the geographical and personal names are seldom used in "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" in that these two types of nouns are specific reference of nouns which are generally more difficult to be or even cannot be coerced into generic reference of nouns, such as "zhongguo" (中国 "China"), "meiguo" (美国 "America"), "Shanghai" (上海), "Lei Feng" (雷锋), "Zhu Geliang" (诸葛亮), and "Nan Batian" (南霸天), etc.

"S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" is a comparative construction expressing metaphorical meanings, which can accept more types of nouns than "N_1Adv *shi* N_2". Therefore, when "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" is coerced by "N_1Adv *shi* N_2", the former inherits all the types of nouns from the latter.

4. Conclusion

This thesis analyzes the syntactic coercion of "N_1Adv *shi* N_2" on "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" and finds that they have a close relationship between them. The latter inherits the information of nouns as adjectives, generic reference of nouns and no negation from the former, and blocks the information of personal names as specific reference of nouns. On nouns, "S *bi* N_1 *hai* N_2" mainly inherits the nouns referring to people from "N_1Adv *shi* N_2", and blocks the geographical and personal names. Besides, according to the analysis of the coercion between the two constructions, there exists a "WHOLE-PART" metonymic thinking model link, which supplements Goldberg's four types of links (1995).

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